

item was not received in time for publication in the appropriate issue.

Nomination for Administrator of the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration

December 3, 1993

The President today announced his intention to nominate Ricardo Martinez, M.D., to be Administrator of the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration with the U.S. Department of Transportation.

"Ricardo Martinez has dedicated his career to improving trauma care and curtailing car accident deaths," the President said. "As a firsthand witness to the tragedy accidents can inflict on individuals, families, and communities, he will work hard to ensure the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration uses all of its resources to make our roads safer."

NOTE: A biography of the nominee was made available by the Office of the Press Secretary. This item was not received in time for publication in the appropriate issue.

Remarks at the "Celebration '94" Reception in Albuquerque, New Mexico

December 3, 1993

The President. You know, when Bruce said to Alice, "Just give the President whatever it is you have," I said, "Heck, Bruce, I want the ranch." [Laughter] I like the Stetson, but I mean, if I really get a choice—[Laughter]

Ladies and gentlemen, I am glad to be here. Glad to be back in New Mexico. How many of you were here—I just got off the phone with Hillary. She was working in New Hampshire yesterday, so she's home tonight. I just got off the phone with her. How many of you were here when we were here the night of the election—all night—remember that? The press has a way of finding out everything about you if you become President. President Reagan loved jelly beans, and President Bush didn't like broccoli and last week the Wall Street Journal reported our

dark secret that Hillary and I are addicted to salsa. [Laughter] And it all happened because of you, because we stayed up all night living on that before the election.

I am so glad to be back in New Mexico. I'm glad to be here with Ray Powell and with you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you for being such a good emcee. I want to thank my longtime friend Bruce King. I don't know if you remember what he said. There are only three living Americans who served as Governors in the seventies, the eighties, and the nineties: Cecil Andrus of Idaho, Bruce King, and me. It was the longest time before any of us could get a promotion. We had a lottery, and in the beginning we thought I won, but sometimes in the last year I wasn't sure I didn't lose. [Laughter] I love Bruce King. The first time I ever met Bruce and Alice and Bruce laid all that, you know, that "Aw, shucks," stuff on me—[laughter]—"Aw, shucks," you know, I checked three times to make sure I still had my billfold in my pocket. Aw, shucks. [Laughter] I appreciate the fact that Bruce is missing the start of the annual Lobo Classic Basketball Tournament tonight. I know what a sacrifice it is. He did it for the money, not me. [Laughter] But I'm glad he's here anyway. You can tell we're friends; you can't make fun of your enemies. [Laughter]

I want to say, too, how glad I am to be here with Bill and Barbara Richardson. Bill Richardson was the national cochair of the Adelante Con Clinton movement. Thank you for bringing your posters; there's two there. But he never did anything more important for America than in his leadership in the fight for the passage of NAFTA. I can tell you, on September 14th, the day after we had the signing of the peace agreement between Israel and the PLO, we formally kicked off the NAFTA fight after all the side agreements on labor and the environment were done. And we had the endorsement of all the living former Presidents. We had four Presidents and former Presidents there, President Ford, President Carter, President Bush, and myself. We were 100 votes behind. We were maybe that close—[laughter]—100 in the